

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 ACDA-07 /088 W

-----011129Z 096963 /14

R 311047Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7275

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 2395

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FT, FR

SUB: OAU CONFERENCE ON DJIBOUTI CONTINUES

REF: ACCRA 2337

1. OAU CONFERENCE ON DJIBOUTI CONTINUED THROUGH 30 MARCH 77 WITH LITTLE ACCOMPLISHED OTHER THAN READINGS OF POSITION PAPERS BY VARIOUS NATIONALIST REPRESENTATIVES. SESSIONS HAVE ALL BEEN CLOSED BUT CONSENSUS OF LOCAL AND FOREIGN OBSERVERS IS THAT LITTLE REAL PROGRESS IS BEING MADE TOWARD REAL UNITY AMONG THE VARIOUS FTAI FACTIONS REPRESENTED. CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO CLOSE 31 MARCH OR 1 APRIL AND WITH SO LITTLE TIME LEFT WE EXPECT LITTLE MORE THAN AGREEMENT ON JOINT STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF TOTAL INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL UNITY. FTAI GROUPS FAVORING CONTINUED ASSOCIATION WITH FRANCH ARE NOT REPRESENTED HERE.

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2. FRENCH OFFICIAL (NAME UNKNOWN) WHO IS DJIBOUTI EXPERT FROM PARIS TOLD EMBOFF ON AFTERNOON 29 MARCH THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT CARES LITTLE WHAT HAPPENS AT ACCRA CONFERENCE SINCE IN FRENCH VIEW THE NECESSARY DECISIONS REGARDING STEPS TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE HAVE ALREADY BEEN REACHED. HE CLAIMED HE HAD SEEN SIGNS THAT GROUPS WHO BOYCOTTED PARIS CONFERENCE NOW REGRET

THAT DECISION AND ARE MOVING TOWARDS THE POSITIONS REACHED AT THE PARIS CONFERENCE. ALL THE FRENCH REALLY WANT OUT OF THE ACCRA CONFERENCE, SAID THE FRENCH OFFICIAL, IS TO HAVE THE FORMER BOYCOTTERS ACCEPT DECISIONS REACHED IN PARIS. ON SUBJECT OF FRENCH MILITARY PRESENCE IN DJIBOUTI AFTER INDEPENDENCE SAME FRENCH OFFICIALS SAID THERE WILL "HAVE TO" BE SOME FORM OF FRENCH MILITARY PRESENCE BUT THAT THE DETAILS HAVE YET TO BE WORKED OUT.

3. WE UNDERSTAND ALSO THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO ISSUE DECREE 31 MARCH TO HAVE ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUM IN FTAI ON 8 MAY. FRENCH HERE HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT DISSOLUTION OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT EARLIER IN THE WEEK WOULD DELAY THIS, BUT THEY NOW BELIEVE THINGS ARE BACK ON TRACK.
SMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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